



KENTUCKY BOARD OF EDUCATION

OCTOBER BOARD NOTES

Volume 16, No. 5 -- Report of the October 6-7, 2008, Regular Meeting

COMMENTS FROM JOE BROTHERS, KENTUCKY BOARD OF EDUCATION CHAIR



The Kentucky Board of Education highly values the work of the dedicated teachers and administrators across this state. In an effort to emphasize this message, the board passed the following resolution at its October meeting, posted it on the department's Web site and attached it to the press release that went out about the work that occurred during the meeting:

Resolution Recognizing the Week of the Classroom Teacher

***By
The Kentucky Board of Education
Commonwealth of Kentucky***

Whereas, The Association for Childhood Education International (ACEI) is the oldest professional organization in the world dedicated to the development of the child, from birth to early adolescence, and works to establish and maintain the highest standards for growth, development, and learning while supporting recognition, respect, and empowerment for the professional childhood educator; and

Whereas, ACEI annually designates the first full week of October (October 5-11) as *Week of the Classroom Teacher* to provide an opportunity for the community to become involved in the education of children; and



Whereas, ACEI encourages parents, principals, childcare center directors, early childhood program directors, librarians, teacher associations, church groups, PTA and PTO associations, and all who are dedicated to the inherent rights, education, and well-being of all children to offer sincere thanks and appreciation for teachers' contributions in education and society;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Kentucky Board of Education to join ACEI in recognizing the first full week of October as the *Week of the Classroom Teacher* and encourage local school districts, schools, education organizations and communities to celebrate this week and beyond to honor those who inspire, challenge and shape the future of our students -- classroom teachers.

**Done in the city of Frankfort, this
sixth day of October, in the year Two
Thousand and Eight.**

**Joe Brothers, Chair
Kentucky Board of Education**

**Jon E. Draud, Commissioner
Kentucky Department of Education**

Thanks to all educators for the hard work that goes on daily to move Kentucky's students to proficiency and beyond!

If you need to communicate with the board, send your questions to Mary Ann Miller, Policy Advisor, at MaryAnn.Miller@education.ky.gov or you can get individual contact information for KBE members at the following Web address:
<http://www.education.ky.gov/KDE/Administrative+Resources/Kentucky+Board+of+Education/Kentucky+Board+of+Education+Member+Directory.htm>.

***MEET STEPHEN NEAL, DORIE COMBS AND BILLY HARPER, KENTUCKY
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBERS***

Stephen B. Neal of Louisville has served as executive director of the Jefferson County Teachers Association for the past twenty-six years. Prior to serving as JCTA Executive Director, Stephen served as Executive Director of NEA-South Bend and worked for the Indiana State Teachers Association. He is a certified social studies teacher. He has a bachelor's degree from Indiana State University and holds a master's degree from DePauw University. Stephen is a graduate of Leadership Louisville, has served on the Louisville Free Public Library Board and as President of the Church of the Epiphany Parish Council. He and his wife, Linda, have three children and three grandchildren.



Dorie Combs is a professor in the College of Education at Eastern Kentucky University where she is the chair of the Department of Curriculum and Instruction and teaches undergraduate and graduate courses in middle grades curriculum and reading/language arts. She earned bachelor's and master's degrees in secondary English education from the University of South Carolina and a doctorate in educational psychology from the University of Kentucky. Dorie has 15 years of teaching experience at the middle school level in South Carolina and Lexington, KY. She currently serves as the chair of the National Middle School Association's Professional Preparation Advisory Board. Dorie and her husband, Craig, live in Richmond and have two sons, Christopher and John.



Billy Harper is a graduate of Heath High School and the University of Kentucky with a degree in engineering. Billy serves as president of Harper Industries, Inc., a construction holding company consisting of nine construction related subsidiaries with offices in Kentucky, Tennessee and Texas. He serves on the University of Kentucky Mechanical Engineering Advisory Council and helped establish the Paducah Campus Engineering Program. Billy has served on state and national boards for the Council of Economic Education, the Governor's Scholars Program and the McCracken County Board of Education. Billy is also a professional race car driver competing on the ADRL, IHRA, and NHRA circuits. Billy and his wife, Laura, live in Paducah and have four children.



BOARD WILL ADD PUBLIC COMMENT SECTION TO ITS MEETINGS

As one of the items that new members brought back for consideration from their new board member training session conducted by the National Association for State Boards of Education, a public comment section will now become part of every Kentucky Board of Education meeting. Those wishing to speak to the board can enter their names on a sign-up sheet prior to the start of the board meeting. Each speaker will be given a maximum of three minutes to address the board. The public comment section will occur early in the meeting and last up to 30 minutes total.

For more information on this opportunity to address the board, contact Mary Ann Miller at 502-564-3141 or via email at MaryAnn.Miller@education.ky.gov.

BOARD GIVES FINAL APPROVAL TO 703 KAR 5:140, REQUIREMENTS FOR SCHOOL AND DISTRICT REPORT CARDS

The regulation that stipulates the requirements for school and district report cards, 703 KAR 5:140, was amended and given final approval by the Kentucky Board of Education at its October meeting. The major change recommended by Kentucky Department of

Education staff was to place the school and district report cards on the department's Web site thus eliminating the costs of printing and mailing the school report cards, the expense of staff time in compiling and producing the report cards and the delays in the publication of the cards caused by the process of printing and mailing them. Also, the expanded report cards would be replaced by KDE data reports linked to the school and district report cards as these become available. The School Curriculum, Assessment and Accountability Council and the Local Superintendents Advisory Council were in support of the amendments.

The regulation will now proceed through the public hearing process that will occur on November 24 and through legislative committee review. For information on the public hearing, contact Tina Drury at 502-564-4474 or via email at Tina.Drury@education.ky.gov. For more information on the changes to 703 KAR 5:140, contact Ken Draut at 502-564-2256 or via email at Ken.Draut@education.ky.gov.

BOARD REVIEWS POSSIBLE ITEMS FOR ITS LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

Kentucky Board of Education members discussed several items for potential inclusion in their 2009 legislative agenda. No final decision will be made until the December 10-11 meeting when the legislative agenda will come forward for approval.

Some of the items that were discussed included:

- School facilities items
 - Amend KRS 157.440 to increase the five-cent equivalent tax rate for facilities to ten cents. All districts should be required to levy ten cents. Those districts already levying ten cents or more are authorized to levy an additional five cents, but are not required to do this. All facility funding (except the growth levy) should become part of the FSPK program.
 - Allow Capital Outlay to be used for maintenance without forfeiting the districts' participation in SFCC upon approval of the commissioner. Maintenance does not include property insurance.
 - Modify KRS 157.420 to allow land for new schools or modifications to existing schools to be purchased with restricted cash for projects noted on the District Facilities Plan for use in the next eight years. Land would not be counted in the calculation of need.
- Dropout prevention grants
 - Amend KRS 158.146(4) to remove priority in the awarding of dropout prevention grants to districts with chronically high dropout rates, remove the requirement to direct 75% of available funds to elementary and middle school students and 25% to high school students, and focus the grant program on supporting promising and proven practices that are systemic, scalable, replicable and aligned with the principles of secondary reform.
- Blue Ribbon Panel on Interventions in Low-Performing Schools recommendations
 - Add chronic low student academic performance as a cause for removal of a superintendent or school board member to KRS 156.132.

- Funding
 - Fund the Student Information System in the second year of the biennium (\$6,832,100). The 2008-2010 budget funded the completion of the implementation of the Student Information System (SIS) in the first year of the biennium but not the operation of the system in the second year. The system is critical in providing data for funding, student populations, longitudinal reports, individual student growth interventions and their effects, attendance, timely transfer of student records between schools and districts and the demands of the Military Compact of SB68.
 - Fund Read to Achieve and Math Achievement grants for the full biennium (\$11,918,500). Much of the dollars in these two funds that were needed to complete contractual obligations to the school districts were redirected for other General Fund uses in the 2008-2010 budget. This has necessitated a use of FY'09 funds to complete the FY'08 obligations and will require FY'10 funds to complete the FY'09 obligations, leaving the FY'10 Read to Achieve and Math Achievement Fund programs exhausted by December 31, 2009.
- Assessment and Accountability Task Force recommendations
 - It is anticipated that the Assessment and Accountability Task Force will come forward with legislative recommendations for the Kentucky Board of Education to consider at its December meeting.
- Expansion of preschool learning opportunities
 - The Kentucky Board of Education continues to encourage the General Assembly to build on the traditions established in the 1990 Reform Act and later early childhood innovations to assure that all of Kentucky's youngest citizens have access to quality preschool opportunities in their communities.

For more information on the board's legislative agenda, contact Frank Rasche at 502-564-4474 or via email at Frank.Rasche@education.ky.gov .

LAURA MCGRAIL AWARDED THE DR. SAMUEL ROBINSON AWARD

At the October meeting, Henderson County School Psychologist Laura McGrail was awarded the board's Dr. Samuel Robinson Award. The award was established in June 2004 to be conferred annually on an individual or groups in Kentucky for outstanding leadership, commitment and service in promoting equity and opportunity to learn at high levels for all Kentucky students. These traits – leadership, commitment and service – are the hallmarks of Dr. Robinson's remarkable career as an advocate for all children. Upon his retirement from the board, it was the intention of his colleagues to honor him, to call attention to others in our state who share his passion for equity and opportunity in education and to pledge continuing support for their efforts.

Over the past 22 years, Laura McGrail has made many contributions to her district, community, state and profession. In the words of Bonnie Kitchens, Henderson County Director of Special Education, who nominated her, "Laura has proven herself to be an outstanding leader with a desire and passion for equity and opportunity in education."

Additionally, Joan Hoffman of the local chamber of commerce says, "She is a wonderful asset to our school system and to the community." Laura's principal, Rob Carroll, shared, "I have worked with Laura for 16 years and I have found her to put students first in every decision that she has been a part of over that time period."

For more information on the Dr. Samuel Robinson Award, contact Mary Ann Miller at 502-564-3141 or via email at MaryAnn.Miller@education.ky.gov.

BOARD ENDORSES SUPERINTENDENT EVALUATION INSTRUMENT DEVELOPED BY KSBA

David Baird and Mike Oder of the Kentucky School Boards Association (KSBA) appeared at the October Kentucky Board of Education meeting and presented the latest draft of KSBA's *Performance Planning and Review -- For Superintendent Evaluation*. It was conveyed to the board that the document is in a workbook format and is designed to help local school boards make the evaluation of the superintendent a fair, interactive process rather than an annual event. The evaluation workbook was characterized as a tool that focuses on enhancing student achievement. Baird and Oder indicated that the tool will be made available for all local boards to use and said that KSBA will be encouraging them to do so.

At the end of the presentation, the Kentucky Board of Education endorsed the tool and its use.

For more information on *Performance Planning and Review -- For Superintendents Evaluation*, contact David Baird at 502-695-4630 or via email at david.baird@ksba.org.

OTHER ITEMS APPROVED AT THE OCTOBER MEETING WERE:

- Statements of Consideration for 703 KAR 5:080, Administration Code for Kentucky's Educational Assessment Program and 703 KAR 5:070, Inclusion of Special Populations in the State-Required Assessment and Accountability Program
- District Facility Plan for Augusta Independent School District
- District Facility Plan Amendments for Caldwell and Carlisle County School Districts
- 704 KAR 3:090, Extended School Services (Final)
- C.B. Akins' travel to the Seminar for Administrators of Programs of International Educational Cooperation

OTHER ITEMS REVIEWED AT THE OCTOBER MEETING WITH NO ACTION TAKEN WERE:

- Reports from the Christian County, Covington Independent and Jefferson County School Districts on the status of school and district support plans
- Achievement gap for students with disabilities
- Update on gifted and talented education

- 702 KAR 3:090, Depository bond, penal sum
- Kentucky Adolescent Literacy Work Plan
- Commonwealth Accountability Testing System Data Release
- Audit Committee Update and Review of the Commissioner's and Board's expenses
- KDE Employment Report
- Litigation Report
- Items from the NASBE New Board Member Institute

BOARD MEETING DATES FOR 2008, 2009 AND 2010

KBE Meeting Dates 2008

<u>2008</u>	<u>Type of Meeting</u>	<u>Location</u>
November 5, 2008	Regular meeting	Danville – Visit Kentucky School for the Deaf
December 10-11, 2008	Regular meeting	Frankfort

KBE Meeting Dates 2009

<u>2009</u>	<u>Type of Meeting</u>	<u>Location</u>
February 10-11, 2009	Regular meeting	Frankfort
March 4, 2009	Regular meeting	Louisville – Visit Kentucky School for the Blind
April 1-2, 2009	Regular meeting	Frankfort
May 12-13, 2009	KBE retreat/strategic plan discussion	Frankfort
June 10-11, 2009	Regular meeting	Frankfort
August 5-6, 2009	Regular meeting	Frankfort
September 9, 2009	Regular meeting	Kentucky Dam Village State Park, Gilbertsville
October 7-8, 2009	Regular meeting	Frankfort
December 9-10, 2009	Regular meeting	Frankfort

KBE Meeting Dates 2010

<u>2010</u>	<u>Type of Meeting</u>	<u>Location</u>
February 3-4, 2010	Regular meeting	Frankfort
March 3, 2010	Regular meeting	General Butler State Park, Carrollton
March 31-April 1, 2010	Regular meeting	Frankfort
May 18-19, 2010	KBE retreat/strategic plan discussion	Frankfort
June 9-10, 2010	Regular meeting	Frankfort
August 4-5, 2010	Regular meeting	Frankfort

September 15, 2010	Regular meeting	Available hotel, Ashland
October 6-7, 2010	Regular meeting	Frankfort
December 8-9, 2010	Regular meeting	Frankfort

For more information on the Board's schedule, contact Mary Ann Miller or Susan Palmer at (502) 564-3141 or via email at MaryAnn.Miller@education.ky.gov or Susan.Palmer@education.ky.gov.

The actions described above were taken in open session of the Kentucky Board of Education at the October 6-7, 2008, regular meeting conducted in the State Board Room, Capital Plaza Tower, 1st Floor, Frankfort, Kentucky. This information is provided in summary form, and an official record of the meeting is available on tape in the permanent records of the Kentucky Board of Education, First Floor, Capital Plaza Tower, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601. These records are open for inspection Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

For additional information about the Kentucky Board of Education meetings, agendas, minutes or special accommodations needed for attending meetings, contact Mary Ann Miller, Policy Advisor, at (502) 564-3141.

The Kentucky Board of Education does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, religion, age, or disability in employment or the provision of services.